

## WHERE HE RESTS.

Stephen F. Austin's Burial Place  
in Brazoria County.

### PROSPECTIVE HUNTING PARK.

Statistics About Telephone Lines in This  
State--Latest Developments in the  
Corsicana Oil Fields.

#### Austin's Grave.

Capt. Jack H. Harrison of San Antonio has returned from a trip to Brazoria county. Conversing with a newspaper man he said:

"About seven miles above the town of Velasco, on the west bank of the Brazos river, in Brazoria county, is situated the old Peach Point plantation.

"This old plantation is an interesting relic of the colonial history of Texas and was a noted place during the days of the republic. Following the advice of Stephen F. Austin, James F. Perry, who had married Austin's only sister, removed from Missouri to Texas, stopping first on Pleasant bayou, south of where Alvin is now located, and in December, 1832, settled at Peach Point.

"The plantation derives its name from the fact that there is a ridge or slight elevation of land running through it which was originally almost entirely timbered by wild peach, which is a growth of timber peculiar to the best lands on the lower Brazos bottoms.

"Austin, ever mindful of those near and dear to him, and believing that there would eventually be a large city built at the mouth of the Brazos, selected this place as the one most advantageous in his estimation of any known to him in Texas, and induced his brother-in-law to settle on it, that the children of Mrs. Perry by a former marriage, Moses A. Bryan, Joel Bryan and Guy M. Bryan, might have the best chance possible for him to give them to advance in life.

"The first house built by Mr. Perry was constructed of hewn puncheons, with clapboard roof and "stick and dirt" chimney. The family was on the ground and waited while this crude domicile was being constructed. Afterward a hewn log house of generous dimensions was built, and it is standing to-day and in use as the homestead of James F. Perry, grandson of the original settler.

"The southwest room of this house is the one that was set apart for the use of Stephen F. Austin by his sister whenever he found time to visit her, and he always spent all the time that he could possibly spare from his arduous public labors at his sister's home.

"I spent several days recently at Peach Point the guest of the present owner, who is a hospitable, whole-souled gentleman, and had the satisfaction of going into and making a close examination of the room in which Stephen F. Austin spent so much of his time when visiting at the home of his sister. I could not help feeling while examining the room that it should be revered almost as a holy of holies by the early settlers of Texas and their descendants as it is the only structure now in existence within my knowledge that had any particularly close association with the father of the Republic of Texas, as I understand the log building at San Felipe de Austin, which was both Austin's office and his dwelling

place, was destroyed by fire when the town was burned to keep it from falling into the hands of and being looted by Santa Ana and his army. This room, interesting as it must be to the lover of early Texas history, is not the only point of historical interest on Peach Point plantation, for here in the little church yard dedicated as the last resting place of the Perry and Bryan families, repose the remains of Stephen F. Austin. This grave is unmarked, save by a modest marble slab placed over it by the hands of affectionate kinspeople. Yet Stephen F. Austin died on the 27th day of December, 1836, more than half a century ago. He died as he had lived, in the service of Texas, and filling one of the most important offices of the republic.

"Would it not be appropriate to remove the ashes of Stephen F. Austin to the capital of the state and erect a suitable monument over them? It was his indomitable energy and his wise counsel and material aid to the early settlers of Texas that made the victory of San Jacinto possible. Then is it not a pity that his ashes should be allowed to rest in an obscure country graveyard, neglected by the great state which owes its present proud existence more to his influence, integrity and energy than to that of any man living or dead?"

#### Game Preserve.

A movement is now on foot among the lovers of field sports in Bexar county, as well as many public spirited citizens who are desirous of adding to the attractiveness of San Antonio, to acquire what is known as the Mitchell Lake property, about seven miles from San Antonio, for the purpose of converting it into a game preserve. It may not be generally known that within an hour's drive of San Antonio lies one of the finest shooting grounds in the United States. It has been frequently said by sportsmen, who have shot over some of the most famous resorts for water fowl in the United States, that Mitchell's Lake surpasses them all; that it seems to possess a great attraction for wild fowl; that whenever water there is sufficient wild fowl are abundant, and that more ducks can be shot there in an hour than any point on the coast in a day.

The lake covers from 1500 to 2000 acres and there is better shooting on it with 100 men stationed about than with five. It requires, when the lake is full, anywhere from fifty to one hundred men to keep the shooting at its best and to keep the birds on the wing.

Efforts have been made at different times to acquire the property for sporting purposes, but it was impossible to acquire it until the past few months.

It will be a great addition to San Antonio, provided the members, or management of the club, can see their way clear to extending hospitalities of the club to winter visitors. With such shooting grounds, practically inexhaustible, such attraction possessed by no other winter resort.

It is also proposed to sink artesian wells and the promoters of the enterprise have every reason to believe that artesian water can be made at moderate cost, so the lake will always be filled with water. Club houses are to be erected and everything necessary will be done for the comfort of the members and their guests.

In addition to the shooting, fishing will be a feature, and preparations are being made to have the lake stocked with fish.

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Cuero Telephone company 82, Palestine Telephone company 128, Gatesville Telephone company 60, Buffalo and Centerville Telephone company 3, Corsicana Mutual Telephone company 153, Nava-ota Telephone and Construction company 75, Risco Telephone company 42, Jewett, Centerville and Leona Telephone company 7, Grapeland and Daily Telephone company 2, Marlin Telephone company of Round Mountain 7, Gonzales Telephone company 72, Huntsville Telephone company 72, Brownwood Telephone exchange 136, Southwestern Telegraph and Telephone company 8664, Palestine Telephone company 134, Albany Telephone company 18, Abilene Telephone company 127, Eureka Telephone company of Gonzales 10, Leona, Dean's Store and Midway 2, Irvin Carter, Jr., Buffalo 3, Gulf Coast Telephone company, Cuero 11, Denton Telephone company 46, Texas Telephone company 46, Texas Telephone company, Bonham, 88, Beaumont Telephone exchange 94, Blanco Telephone company 12, Colvert Telephone company 27, Bryan Telephone company 179, Nava-ota Telephone company 100. A total of 10,495 telephones in use in Texas.

#### In the Oil Field.

Development work in the oil fields at Corsicana for the month of October shows that twenty-seven wells were completed, of which twenty-three are producers and four are dry holes. At the close of the month there were sixteen wells drilling and seven rigs ready to begin work. There are now in the field a total of 298 producing wells, giving a total daily product of about 2600 barrels of crude oil, which sells on this market to the pipe line company for \$1300, or for a month of twenty-six days for the sum of 33,800.

The Pipe Line company have over 400,000 barrels of oil in storage tanks and are continually adding to their storage capacity by building additional tanks. By the time the refinery, which is owned by the same persons who established the Pipe Line, is completed, there will be still on hand in the different reservoirs sufficient to keep the plant running two years, not counting any other output.

Hardy & Sharp are now drilling on a wild cat well on the Gibson property, seven miles south of the city, not a great distance from the W. H. Stoley well on the W. J. McKie place. This is on the new territory pioneered by Stoley, who is also doing a little wild catting in the same neck of woods.

The force of men engaged at work on the refinery has been cut down recently on account of the non-arrival of iron needed in the construction, and there is still about 150 men employed there daily. On account of delays of the arrival of material it looks now as if it will be Jan., 1899, before the work of refining oil there will be commenced.

#### Six Houses Destroyed.

Six houses, two of them two-story buildings, and the other cottages, were burned at San Antonio with their contents on Herff street, near the Aransas river depot. The two-story house were boarding-houses for the city.

Mrs. Seegerson and the other by Mrs. Fannie Irvine. The fire was occasioned by an explosion of gas olins in a closed room, where a match was ignited by a boarder. Two of the cottages were owned by Mrs. Gillis, one by Edward Lyons and the other by the estate of Nelson Mackey. One of the large houses were owned by T. E. Munne and the other by Mrs. Seeger son. The latter had no insurance on either the house or contents. Some insurance was carried on the other houses, but the amount could not be learned. The loss on the houses was about \$16,000 and on contents about \$4000. There were three alarms sounded, calling the entire department.

#### Christian Lectureship.

The Christian lectureship meets this year at Waxahachie Monday evening, November 14, and will remain in session until noon of the following Thursday.

J. W. McGarvey of the Bible chair in Kentucky will be the principal speaker. He will discuss the "Laying on of Hands," "The Eldership," "Genesis and Revelation" and "Theories of Inspiration."

M. M. Davis of Dallas and B. B. Sanders of Austin will present "How to Preach Baptism."

J. N. Crutcher and T. D. Seacrest will talk of "Church Entertainments."

J. T. McKissick will present "Church Discipline," which will be reviewed by W. K. Homan.

S. K. Hallam and Granville Jones will tell the position Christianity sustains to politics.

G. Lyle Smith will have "The Atonement" as his theme.

R. R. Hamlin and J. M. Campbell will read papers on "The Personality of the Holy Spirit."

George B. Ranshaw of San Antonio and J. Z. Miller of Belton will handle the question of "Church Finances."

O. A. Carr and D. W. Pritchett will present "Co-operation in Mission and Educational Work."

Dr. Lowber of Austin will join President McGarvey on "Genesis and Revelation."

All subjects will be open for discussion by others. The lectureship this year promises to be a literary and spiritual feast. The attendance will be large and provisions have been made for room for all.

#### Rock Island's Project.

It is believed at El Paso that the Chicago Rock Island and Pacific railway will extend its line from Liberal, Kan., to Alamogordo, N. M., to connect with the El Paso and Northeastern, a railway just completed and extended eighty miles north of El Paso. It is claimed that the Rock Island is bent on reaching the Mexican border and has already sent its engineers to investigate and report on the proposed extension. Officials of the Northeastern admit that the Rock Island engineer was here last week.

A strange cattle disease has carried off quite a number of fat cows and heaves during the past thirty days around Orange. Young stock appears to have suffered less. Several horses have died in the upper portion of the country apparently from the same disease.

An interesting feature has been added to the high school work at Henrietta in the way of a literary society. One of the most entertaining parts of the programme is the two orchestral each composed of six stringed instruments. The society meets every Monday afternoon.

#### Tobacco in Texas.

Mr. W. G. Baker of Corsicana, who this season is buying cotton in Brenham, was in that city the other morning and stated that tobacco culture was interesting to German farmers in Washington county, and that arrangements were being made to put in considerable acreage next year.

"One farmer I conversed with," said Mr. Baker, "stated to me that he intended to put in twenty-five acres in tobacco next season, he having already secured the seed of the finest Cuban variety, and that he had secured the services of a Cuban experienced in tobacco culture on the island to superintend the crop. This is not the only man who will put in tobacco in Washington county, but probably no others will devote so large an acreage to the plant as the one I have referred to. It is claimed that all conditions in Washington county are favorable to tobacco, and those who will engage in it believe the returns from the crop will be better than cotton will give."

#### Letter from Gen. Wheeler.

The committee of Pat Cleburne camp, at Waco, deputed, to write a letter of condolence to Gen. Joseph Wheeler received the general's reply as follows:

Headquarters Fourth Army Corps, Huntsville, Ala., 1898.—To Messrs. W. C. Dodson, J. C. J. King and J. D. Shaw, committee of Pat Cleburne camp, United Confederate Veterans: My dear friends—I do not know how to thank you for your most kind and touching letter of condolence sent me in behalf of your camp. It is a great gratification for me to receive this expression of sympathy from my Texas friends. As you can well imagine, the shock consequent upon the death of my son was a terrible one and we can hardly realize even now that he has been taken from us. I thank you again with all my heart for your kindly and heartfelt sympathy.

With high regards, truly your friend,  
J. WHEELER.

#### Friendship Renewed.

Mr. Paul Zeller, who is at Brenham a guest of Mr. Ed Haubelt, speaks many languages and has traveled through many countries. Mr. Zeller and Mr. Haubelt spent their boyhood together in Hamburg twenty years ago, since which time Mr. Zeller has traversed both hemispheres, spending much time in Russia, Arabia and Africa, after having seen the whole of Europe. His latest pilgrimages have been in the Americas, which he pronounced the Edens of the earth. Mr. Haubelt and his friend have not met since they separated in childhood in the old country.

#### Wants Free Delivery.

Chas. Fitzgerald, special inspector of the United States post-office department, is in Beaumont in answer to a petition from citizens for a free mail delivery. Mr. Fitzgerald was entertained all day by Mayor Wheat, who drove him over the city. The inspector expresses himself as pleased with the development of the town, but thinks before the department will grant free mail delivery that it will be necessary for the citizens to name and number the streets and build good sidewalks.

#### Land Sales in October.

Austin, Tex.—The general land office reports that during month of October there were 46,062 1-2 acres of public school land, and the first year's rental on lands amounted to \$14,424.46.